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The irrigable ayacut of the Kistna Eastern delta.

* 458 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what was the extent fixed as the irrigable ayacut of the Kistna Eastern delta before the shutters were raised at the Kistna Head Sluice;

(b) whether Government propose to extend the ayacut still further now that more water is available on account of the raising of the shutters; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by the Government?

A.—(a) The irrigable ayacut of the Kistna Eastern delta was fixed at 430,000 acres in 1924; the shutters were installed before the flood season of 1925.

(b) & (c) Observation for three years of the effect of the shutters has shown that there is sufficient surplus water to irrigate about 75,000 acres of early short crop (July to October), of which about 35,000 acres will be in the Kistna Eastern delta. The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) has applied for a special staff to work out detailed proposals and the question is now under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the report of the Chief Engineer on this question?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is stated that he has applied for special staff to work out the detailed proposals. He will naturally report."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" When did he apply for the special staff?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It must be quite recently. Apparently it has not been disposed of."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if the extent referred to in (b) and (c) relates to the Kistna Eastern delta or the whole delta?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is stated in the answer that out of the 75,000 acres about 35,000 will be in Kistna Eastern delta."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Apparently the whole question was with reference to the Eastern delta?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member suggests that it is a mistake, I will examine that point."

Construction of the Mettur dam with cement or lime, Indian or foreign.

* 459 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the Government have decided to use for the construction of the Mettur dam, lime or cement; and

(b) if it is cement, what cement the Government have decided to use, Indian or foreign?

A.—(a) Cement composed of 80 per cent of Portland cement and 20 per cent of surki is to be used for the construction of the dam.

(b) The cement is manufactured in India.

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"As to the contract now placed, may I know the name of the particular firm, Sir?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not find any reference to tenders and acceptances in this question. It only relates to the quality of cement to be used."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"The answer to (b) says that Indian cement will be used. I am only anxious to know whether the promoters of the firm are Indians or Europeans?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I think it would be better to put a separate question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Will the hon. Member furnish the information without waiting for a formal question?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I will furnish it, Sir."

Publishing of the Report of the Mettur Project Deputation Committee

*460 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state when the Government intend publishing the report of the Mettur Project Deputation Committee?

A.—As soon as the Government Order on the report is ready.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"How long will Government take to pass orders?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I hoped it would be ready before this meeting. But circumstances prevented that and I now hope it will be ready in a week or so."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that if there is a further delay in accepting the recommendations of the committee, progress in the work will continue in the meanwhile?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I must ask the hon. Member to wait till he has had an opportunity of reading the Government Order."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Seeing that this committee was appointed practically at the request of the House, may I know if Government has any intention of consulting the House before passing orders, and if not why not?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"One portion of the House asks that the orders may be expedited. Now the suggestion is that it should be deferred pending discussion of this House. I cannot say anything more now than that the Government Order will not prevent the House from pressing again any further points."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Now that there has been some delay, may I ask whether the hon. Member accepts the recommendations as the recommendations of the House, in which case there is no need to discuss further? If he does not accept them, may I know whether Government will consult the wishes of the House before passing their orders?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"It does not depend upon me. I must ask the member to wait."